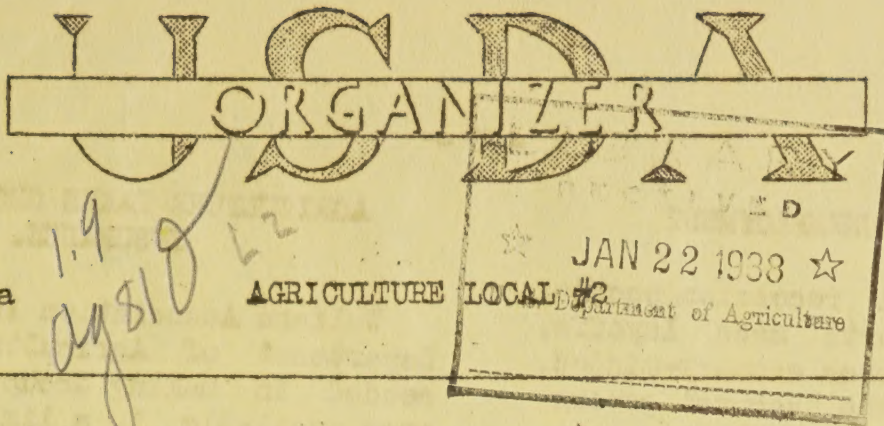


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United Federal
Workers of America

AGRICULTURE

LOCAL #2

Affiliated with
the C.I.O.

Vol. 2, No. 9

January 1938

LET'S ECONOMIZE!

"Against False Economy" was the watchword that brought the UFWA into being. While its campaign to organize government employees has waxed with an ever-increasing tempo, the UFWA has not lost sight of its initial issue. "Against False Economy" is as timely as it was six months ago.

But are we against economy as such? By all means, no! The Administration plan of reorganization, with certain amendments proposed by the UFWA, has the support of our organization as a means to reduce duplication of services within the government and thus effect real economy. On the other hand, economy that creates unemployment, prevents advancement and increases overtime - economy at the price of human misery - is indefensible. Let's economize, yes, but at a reasonable price. Since administrative raises are to be curtailed for the next two years in Agriculture, more emphasis must be placed upon the long-existent need for reclassification. Civil Service standards of classification must not be permitted a progressive degradation by requiring employees to perform an increasingly higher class of work without a corresponding increase in classification.

If you are in accord with these principles, you owe it to yourself to support the organization that is vigorously fighting in your behalf. Join Agriculture Local 2, UFWA and support our program:

1. Increased appropriations to cover reclassifications.
2. Abolition of uncompensated overtime.
3. An effective promotions policy.
4. Efficient reemployment and transfer machinery.

UFWA TO REPRESENT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES AT APPROPRIATION HEARINGS.

This year, at the Congressional hearings on appropriations for 1938-39, the UFWA will represent the interests of government employees.

Since Congress is in an economizing mood, the government employee is fortunate in having a vigilant union safeguarding his interests. It is necessary, for instance, that adequate sums be appropriated to overcome the unhealthy conditions of uncompensated overtime and lack of raises which have persisted in many sections due to lack of funds.

In order that the representatives from the National Office of the UFWA may point out where such inadequacies exist, fill in the information requested below which will be turned over to them immediately and used for your benefit.

When an organization representing thousands of employees (meaning thousands of voters) and backed by the strong CIO presents justifiable requests, Congressmen will think twice before turning them down.

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OVERTIME

To what extent does uncompensated overtime exist in your division?

RAISES

How long since you or others in your division received raises? _____

Bur. _____ Div. _____

Fill in and return by chain envelope to
Nellie Shaffer, Bur. Ent. & Plant Quar.,
Division of Foreign Plant Quarantine.

UFWA ACTS ON UNEMPLOYMENT

When industrial recession occurs, when business starts mass layoffs, when Congress becomes economy-minded, what happens to the "secure" government worker?

Hoover's economy drive demonstrated that the government is no different from private industry. It economizes first on personnel. Government workers are faced, then, with the same problem of job security as all other workers, and it is necessary that they take similar steps to solve their problems.

An industrial recession with mass layoffs faces us now. The CIO has taken a pioneer step in trade unionism by making the problems of its unemployed members its own. In line with this, the UFWA has planned a whole series of activities to make the job of the government worker more secure.

First, we will present arguments and data at Congressional hearings in order to stop contemplated cuts before they are made.

Second, we intend to register all those laid off from each agency, so that a real reemployment register will be created.

Third, the UFWA will help all its locals in working out specific reemployment agreements with each agency to insure preference in rehiring. Local 2 already has negotiated such an agreement with Agriculture.

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The following affairs are being held for the benefit of the field organizers now maintained by the District Organizing Committee:

A musicale at the home of Betty Finkelstein, 969 Randolph St., N.W., Apt. 4, on January 22 at 8:00. Admission is 50¢. Refreshments!!!

A musicale on January 29 at the home of John Schricker, 724 Hamlin St. N.E. at 8:00. Admission 35¢. Snacks!!

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AGRICULTURE TAKES GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE.

Welfare Association leaders in the Department of Agriculture have succeeded in making Group Health Insurance available to a limited number of employees with excellent prospects of early extension of the benefit to all. Their progressive fight to achieve a comprehensive health insurance in the face of reactionary opposition on the part of the District Medical Association is to be commended. We are glad to report that the UFWA has used its every influence to support this movement and to combat those forces that threatened its destruction.

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UFWA ADDS SIX NEW COURSES

to the second semester curriculum of the Federal Workers' School beginning in February.

Donald Montgomery, Consumers Counsel of the Dept. of Agriculture, is conducting a symposium on consumers' problems.

Delbert Clark, Washington Bureau Manager of the New York Times, has a course in journalism.

Floyd Dell, the novelist, is teaching a class in literature.

Study groups in psychology, photography and ballroom dancing are also being organized.

Seventeen year old Marian Hepburn, worker education student at Bennington, Vt., and sister of the movie star, has taken a temporary job in the school organization.

Registrations are open and everyone is invited to enroll now at 532 17th St., N.W.

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Agriculture Local 2, UFWA meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 532 17th St., N. W. at 8:00.

The next regular meeting will be held on January 19.

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